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REMARKS

Claims 4-6, 8-12 and 25 were previously rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Reuman. Applicants have canceled claim 25 in favor of new claim 26. Claims 4-6 and 8-12 now depend either directly or indirectly on claim 26. New claim 27 has also be added to further claim the features of the disclosed invention.

The present invention recognizes that noise is produced both by the device utilized to scan an image from a photographic film and by the film type itself. Accordingly, the present invention provides a method in which both the noise from the scanning device and the noise from the film type is taken into account when generating a resultant noise characteristic table used to enhance a digital image.

Specifically, the method provides for the accumulation of default statistical tables, wherein each default statistical table corresponds to a unique source identification tag associated with a particular film type, and wherein the statistical noise data within a given default statistical table is related to a particular film type. Thus, the data provided within a given default statistical table is not necessarily related to a specific scanning device, but instead, is related to a particular film type. Image pixel data from a digital image is then used to calculate a statistical noise data table corresponding to the digital image. The data within the statistical noise data table corresponding to the digital image is related to the scanning device utilized to create the digital image. A source identification tag corresponding to the digital image is used to select the default statistical table that corresponds to the source identification tag - in other words the default statistical table containing data corresponding to the film type from which the digital image was generated- -, and the selected default statistical table is then used in conjunction with

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the statistical noise table to generate a resultant calculated noise characteristic table. The resultant calculated noise characteristic table is used to generate an enhance digital image in which noise based on the scanning device and noise based on the film type has been taken into account.

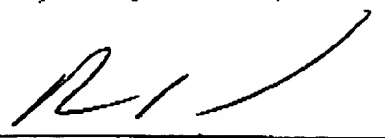
In contrast, Reuman provides a set of statistics generally gathered concerning a particular device. Reuman fails to disclose or suggest that a significant noise component is inherent in the film type and therefore provides no method for dealing with this type of noise. Accordingly, Reuman clearly fails to disclose the default statistical table claimed, the use of both the default statistical table and the noise statistical table to generate a resultant calculated noise characteristic table as claimed, or the claimed resultant calculated noise characteristic table itself. None of the specific sections of Reuman noted by the Examiner have anything to do with film type or identifying noise associated with film type. Accordingly, Reuman also fails to disclose or suggest the use of the source identification tag as claimed. Accordingly, applicants submit that Reuman cannot anticipate the claims at issue.

In view of the above, all of the claims in this case are believed to be in condition for allowance, notice of which is respectfully urged.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorney Docket: 81759RLO (KODA:316)
ROSSI & ASSOCIATES
P.O. Box 826
Ashburn, VA
703-726-6020



Marc A. Rossi
Registration No. 31,923